

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 YAOUND 03577 170937Z

ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PA-02 INR-07 CU-06 /026 W

-----063928 170940Z /21

O 170900Z AUG 77

FM AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

TO USINFO WASHDC IMMEDIATE

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2878

UNCLAS YAOUNDE 3577

FOR IOP/M, IBS NEWS COVERAGE DESK ATTENTION AFRICAN DIVISION

PASS IPS AFRICA BRANCH, IAA

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: NA

SUBJ: ENGLISH TEACHING SEMINAR COSPONSORED BY CAMEROON EDUCATION
MINISTRY USIS AND BRITISH CUNCIL OPENS IN YAOUNDE

YAOUNDE, JULY 16 -- CAMEROON'S VICE-MINISTER OF NATIONAL
EDUCATION, THE HONORABLE MRS. DOROTHY NJEUMA, TODAY OPENED
THE NINTH ANNUAL SEMINAR ON ENGLISH LANGUAGE TEACHING BY CALLING
ON ENGLISH TEACHERS IN CAMEROON TO PLAN THEIR LESSONS IN
ACCORDANCE WITH WELL-DEFINED OBJECTIVES AND TO EVALUATE THEIR
STUDENTS' PERFORMANCE IN LINE WITH OBJECTIVE CRITERIA.

MRS. NJEUMA WAS ADDRESSING A GROUP OF APPROXIMATELY 45
CAMEROONIAN ENGLISH TEACHERS GATHERED IN YAOUNDE TO ATTEND
A TWO-WEEK ENGLISH TEACHING SEMINAR ORGANIZED BY THE MINISTRY
OF NATIONAL EDUCATION THROUGH THE COOPERATION OF THE AMERICAN
CULTURAL CENTER (USIS) AND THE BRITISH COUNCIL. ALSO PRESENT
ATH TE OPENING CEREMONY WERE THE BRITISH AMBASSADOR MR. E.
ALBERT SAUNDERS AND THE AMERICAN CHARGE D'AFFAIRES, MR.
WILLIAM C. MITHOEFER.

CAMEROON IS THE ONLY AFRICAN COUNTRY WHICH HAS BOTH
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 YAOUND 03577 170937Z

ENGLISH AND FRENCH AS OFFICIAL LANGUAGES, AND IN HER
REMARKS, MRS. NJEUMA EMPHASIZED THE SIGNIFICNACE OF THE ROLE
WHICH ENGLISH TEACHERS HAVE TO PLAY IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF
THIS POLICY OF BILINGUALISM. "THERE IS NO QUESTION," SHE
SIAD, "BUT THAT A CAMEROONIAN WHO IS PROFICIENT IN BOTH OF THE
OFFICIAL LANGUAGES OF THE UNITED REPUBLIC--THAT IS, ENGLISH
AND FRENCH, HAS AT HIS COMMAND TWO POWERFUL INSTRUMENTS OF

INTERNATIONAL COMMUNICATION IN NEARLY ALL SIGNIFICANT SPHERES OF LIFE."

MRS. NJEUMA ALSO NOTED THE SPECIAL IMPORTANCE OF ENGLISH IN THAT"...HISTORICALLY, ENGLISH HAS COMMANDED UNPARRALLELED COMMERCIAL, POLITICAL, CULTURAL, DIPLOMATIC, AND ESPECIALLY MORE SO IN OUR DAYS, TECHNOLOGICAL INITIATIVE, BOTH QUANTITATIVELY AND QUALITATIVELY."

THE AIM OF THE SEMINAR, MRS. NJEUMA EXPLAINED, IS "TO EXPOSE A POOL OF HIGH-CALIBRE TEACHER-EDUCATORS TO RECENT PEDAGOGICAL INSIGHTS, STRATEGIES, TECHNIQUES AND REGULATIONS WHICH WILL ENABLE THEM TO BE MORE EFFECTIVE..." THE VICE-MINISTER PARTICULARLY STRESSED THE NECESSITY TO BASE LANGUAGE TEACHING ON OBJECTIVE CRITERIA: "THERE IS THE ABSOLUTE NECESSITY FOR LANGUAGE TEACHERS TO SPECIFY LANGUAGE OBJECTIVES IN SPECIFIC PERFORMANCE TERMS, ADOPT AND PURSUE STRATEGIES THAT WOULD MAKE FOR OPTIMUM LEARNING AND FINALLY, EVALUATE THE QUALITY OF ON-GOING OR LONG-TERM LEARNING SO AS TO SUPPLY THE NECESSARY FEED-BACK WITHOUT WHICH THE WHOLE CLASS WILL CONTINUE TO FLOUNDER IN A QUAGMIRE OF PLANLESSNESS."

MRS. NJEUMA'S REMARKS WERE FOLLOWED BY THE KEYNOTE ADDRESS GIVEN BY MR. RICHARD WILLAYI, NATIONAL INSPECTOR OF EDUCATION AND RESIDENT CHIEF CONSULTANT, WHO DISCUSSED SEVERAL DIFFERENT THEORIES OF LANGUAGE ACQUISITION AND THEIR IMPLICATIONS FOR UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 YAOUND 03577 170937Z

ENGLISH TEACHING IN CAMEROON. HE NOTED THE IMPORTANCE OF USING AND TEACHING BOTH ENGLISH AND FRENCH IN A CAMEROONIAN CONTEXT: "TO ME," HE SAID, "UNLESS ENGLISH AND FRENCH ARE USED AS MEDIA NOT FOR PERPETUATING THE CULTURAL VALUES TO WHICH THEY ARE INDIGENOUS BUT AS VEHICLES FOR CAPTURING THOSE 'WORLD VIEW' EXPERIENCES THAT ARE CAMEROONIAN IN CONTENT, FUNCTION AND LOGIC, THE IDEAL OF CREATING AN AUTHENTIC, INTEGRATED CAMEROONAIN PERSONALITY THROUGH... THESE LANGUAGES WILL REMAIN AN ILLUSION."

THE NINTH ANNUAL SEMINAR ON ENGLISH LANGUAGE TEACHING IS A JOINT UNDERTAKING OF THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION, THE AMERICAN CULTURAL CENTER AND THE BRITISH COUNCIL. THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION HAS TAKEN THE LEAD IN PLANNING THE CONTENT OF THE SEMINAR, HAS SELECTED THE PARTICIPANTS, AND IS PROVIDING SEVERAL GUEST LECTUREJRS AND DISCUSSION LEADERS AS WELL AS TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING AND FOOD FOR THE PARTICIPANTS.

THE AMERICAN CULTURAL CENTER HAS CONTRIBUTED FUNDS FOR THE SEMINAR, AND IS PROVIDING A LARGE EXHIBIT OF BOOKS ON TEACHING ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE, THREE GUEST LECTURERES, FILMS, AND BOOKS AND MATERIALS FOR SEMINAR PARTICIPANTS.

THE BRITISH COUNCIL IS PARTICIPATING IN THE BOOK EXHIBIT, AND
CONTRIBUTING FILMS, BOOKS AND ONE GUEST LECTURER.
PRILLAMAN

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: EDUCATION, SEMINARS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 17-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977YAOUND03577
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770296-0718
Format: TEL
From: YAOUNDE JOINT
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770851/aaaabqwl.tel
Line Count: 119
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 98b01759-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 04-Jan-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1571186
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ENGLISH TEACHING SEMINAR COSPONSORED BY CAMEROON EDUCATION MINISTRY USIS AND BRITISH CUNCIL OPENS IN YAOUNDE YAOUNDE, JULY 16 -- CAMEROON'S VICE-MIN ISTER OF NA
TAGS: SEDU, CM
To: USIA
Type: TE
vdkgvkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/98b01759-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009